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Attorney Docket No. VPI/03-170 US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/821,793  
Confirmation No.: 9337  
Filing Date: April 9, 2004  
Examiner: Joseph R. Kosack  
Group Art Unit: 1626  
Applicants: Luc J. Farmer et al.  
For: INHIBITORS OF SERINE PROTEASES, PARTICULARLY HCV NS3-  
NS4A PROTEASE

July 18, 2006  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

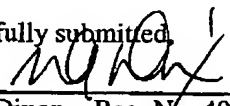
Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1), applicants hereby petition the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office for a three-month extension of time to respond to a Office Action dated January 18, 2006. Applicants have authorized the Director to charge payment of the Extension fee. With the extension, a response is due on or before July 18, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Rev. 3/8/05

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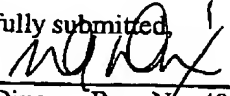
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